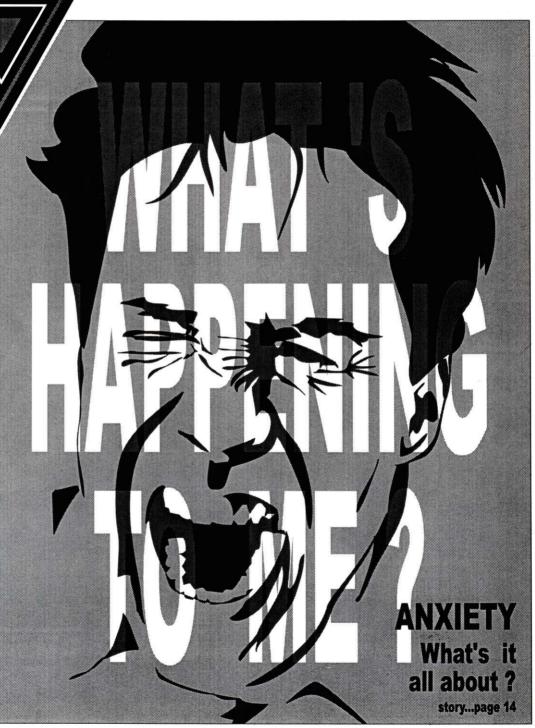
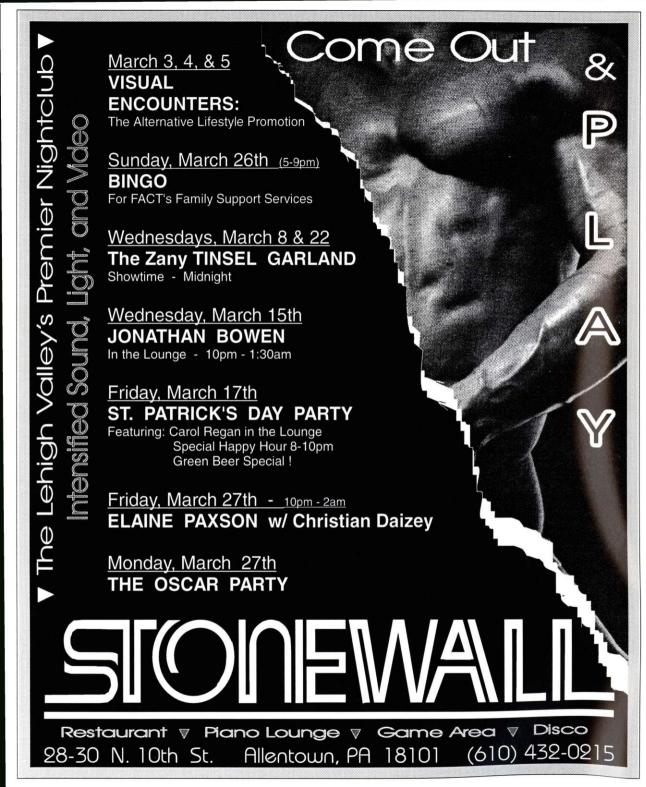
BOVEVGROUND our Source for News & Views in and around the Lehigh Valley





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ABOVE **GROUND PO Box 1656 Allentown, PA 18105-1656 (610)821-1321

Editor Speaks!

"Time to start that Garden!"

With the approach of Spring near at hand, we are all anxious to see what has managed to survive through the harsh days of winter. As is the case for every bulb which has laid dormant through the preceding season, we ourselves have to make every effort to push out for new growth, in an effort to capture our place in the sun, so we can blossom and celebrate the full potential of our existence.

I am, of course, talking about our need to renew our never ending struggle to be recognized and treated with the same respect and dignity as every other American citizen. Just as it is for that lovely bed of perennials you planted last year, it is for us as a community.

In the garden, there always seems to be those few plants or sections of plants that won't make it beyond their suspended state of the preceding winter. You can easily become frustrated when you think about how you did everything possible to assure their survival through this period. It is almost like they simply decided that they did their part last year, and don't choose to come out and present themselves now.

We as a community must be ever vigilant that this condition does not befall us, that we, like those plants, decide to just sit dormant, instead of seeking new growth. We have all invested much time and effort into the ongoing struggle to be accepted and cannot lose momentum. To do this would be to risk moving backwards, instead of forwards towards our own personal freedom.

The forces that oppose our equal status, much like weeds in the garden, are not about to lay dormant, waiting for us to take our rightful place. They are, in fact, constantly sending out their roots in an effort to choke out everything we have worked so hard to accomplish thus far. We cannot simply wait for the general public to recognize us as the desirable additions to their community we should be seen as, or for them to realize that those who inflict suffering, pain, and injustice are not to be accepted. Just as it is with an amateur gardener, it is all too hard for an improperly informed individual to tell the weeds from the flowers when they first start vying for attention. If left go too long, the weeds will simply destroy the flowers, making remedial action almost impossible.

We must always remember that we DO belong in life's garden. Whatever the struggle, we must never back down in our effort to be justly recognized.

Does the Austin Case make You want to Retreat to the Closet? by Steve Black

I didn't get to see the headlines the day that they ran; but, when I heard about them and later read them for myself, I knew how every gay or lesbian person in the Lehigh Valley felt when they saw them. "Gay porn videos, magazines confiscated at Austin home" screamed the front page of the Morning Call's local section, while The Express-Times' front page headline read, "Gay porn seized from Austin's home." Anger and the desire to utter countless expletives filled gays and lesbians as they read these headlines. Each of us was asking ourselves, "Why did he have to be gay?"

James Austin, a financial analyst was charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of a child and reckless endangerment of another person in connection with the January 17 death of his 5 week old son, Jonathan Alan Austin Huddleston. The baby was born for him by a surrogate mother from Indiana.



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(610) 776-1691 • FAX (610) 776-1433 691 N. TRUMP ST., ALLENTOWN, PA 18103 Police searched Austin's home on January 20 and seized 28 video tapes (including "Guys Who Do," "Locker Room Fever," "Big and Hard," Hung and Dangerous," "Glory Holes," "Barney in Concert," "Municipal Securities, " and others that were unlabeled); magazines (including "Olympus," "Honcho," "Rogue Male," Playguy," and "Inches,"); books (including "The New Joy of Gay Sex," Raising Your Baby Right," "Guide to Your Child's Health," and "Name Your Baby"); two jars of sexual lubricant, an address book, a monthly planning calendar, insurance and other documents, photographs, business cards, a handwritten letter and an air travel receipt.

From the beginning of the case, people have speculated as to why a twenty-six year old, single man would pay \$30,000 to a surrogate to have his baby. Now they had the answer they were searching for, Austin was gay. But as the headlines told it, he was a perverted gay baby killer. Each of us reacted in much the same way. Shock, horror, anger, I hated what Austin did. He deserves to be severely punished. These are the types of cases that make me favor the death penalty. But, the newspapers seemed to be taking the rest of the gay and lesbian community down with Austin. Their tabloid style headlines left the Lehigh Valley with impression that all gays and lesbians are unfit to be parents. In the 90's, just when attitudes towards gays and lesbians are changing for the better, just when we have organized a Task Force, a chapter of the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters, a Pride Festival and continue to be major funders of the fight against AIDS. When we have done everything possible to present accurate, positive and respectable images of our community to the public, the newspapers seem to wipe out all that work with one day's headlines. Their articles defamed all gay and lesbian parents, casting a presumption that they are all unfit, simply because of their sexual orientation.

Several letters to the editor appeared shortly after the articles, attacking the Call and Express for their inflammatory headlines and scathing stories. Catherine Spillman, David Butler, Cheryl Boyd, and William Dunning should be commended for speaking out. I don't know any of them. I have no idea whether they are gay or straight, but their opinions and letters of support are greatly appreciated by our community.

continued...see CLOSET pg. 12



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Poetry

The following poem was submitted by Kelly Erkert in memory of her brother, the author, who lost his life to AIDS.

THE KEY

I THREW AWAY THE GOLDEN KEY THE GATE WAS LOCKED FOR YEARS THE KEY WAS TOSSED SO DEEP WITHIN THE SEA OF CRYSTAL TEARS

THE SUN HAS SHINED ITS' PRICELESS RAYS

UPON MY SEA OF SORROW

IT DRIED THE TEARS TO INFINITY

EXPOSING THE KEY OF TOMORROW

I HAVE THE KEY OF BRASS WITH ME TO UNLATCH EACH DOOR I CLOSED TO BROADEN THE ROAD WITHIN MY WORLD FOR EACH DREAM I SHALL COMPOSE

THIS KEY OF LOVE IS IN MY PALM EACH LATCH I LIFT HOLDS MORE IT'S THE ANSWER TO ALL OF MY FANTASIES FOR THESE DREAMS I CAN ENDURE

THE KEY OF LIFE BELONGS TO ME
THERE IS SO MUCH TO PURSUE
THIS PRECIOUS KEY LIES WITHIN MY HEART
AND WILL MAKE EACH DREAM COME TRUE

LEONARD MARK BABEL - 01/20/91

A Look Back

RED RIBBON A SUCCESS by R. Sweeney

The Third Annual Red Ribbon Ball held at the Allentown Hilton on Saturday, January 28th was a huge success, raising well over \$14,000 for AIDS Outreach, a local non-medical service organization for people infected with, or affected

by, HIV. Over one hundred people attended the upscale \$100 per plate affair. The evening started out with an

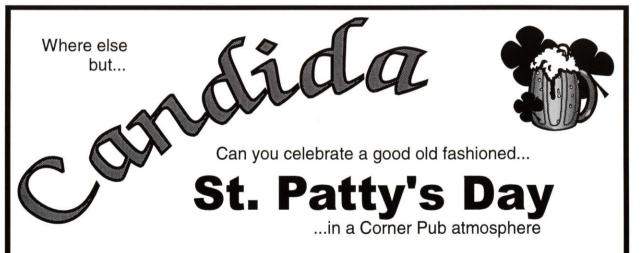
open bar and hors d' oeuvres accompanied by the mellow sounds of a piano player from the Rob Stoneback Band. The band performed during and

after the dinner in which the guests had a choice of either salmon or prime rib impeccably served by the Hilton staff. Tables were adorned by beautiful centerpieces; flowers by Blossoms Flower Shop and candelabras donated by Phoebe Floral.

According to event chairperson Arlene Baron, a big thank you has to go to the corporate sponsors which underwrote the entire event. As a result, AIDS Outreach was able to keep 100% of the moneys raised. Some of the corporate sponsors were: Nations Credit, The Morning Call, The Bon Ton. Union Pacific and B.Braun Medical. She would also like to extend a special thank you to Kiwi International for providing two free airline tickets to anywhere they fly as a door prize.

After dinner, President of AIDS Outreach, Paul Kulp, presented the Corporate sponsors thank you plagues, adorned with red ribbons (a universal symbol for the fight against AIDS), for their generous donations to this worthwhile organization and great cause.

After having a great time dancing the night away. people left with a good feeling, conscious of the real reasons for being there and perhaps a little more enlightened. I know this writer did!





Come out and sing your favorite Irish tunes!

Friday, March 17 2pm-2am

Candida 247 N. Twelth Street Allentown, PA 18102 (610) 434-3071

A STAR SHONE IN BETHLEHEM by Gary Berger

On Friday, January 27th Roslyn Kind, a blond powerhouse, took Diamonz by storm.

Playing to a packed house of over three hundred people, she kept the crowd riveted throughout the entire

show. Constantly interacting with the audience, she turned to her pianist and said "I like places like this. It's like being with friends...like home."

Throughout her show, she joked about luck and tongue-in-cheek about her sister Barbra Streisand. One cannot help but notice their similarity in appearance and voice, but Ms. Kind comes through with a style all her own. With moving "touch your heart" music such as, my favorite, "Come What May" (the title song on her CD), she truly came across as what my grandmother would call a person with "a good heart."



After a rousing standing ovation, Ms. Kind made her way through the crowd signing autographs and CD's. She took everything in stride, amid the pushing and shoving, maintaining a decorum and dignity worthy of a star.

From Diamonz, Ms. Kind was off to the American Music Awards followed by an AIDS benefit in Provincetown, a stop in New York, and then to Boston with "the sister." According to her manager, Bob Rovner, she will be in the Philadelphia area for a benefit towards the end of April.

I highly recommend you try to see her when she is back in the area. Mr. Rovner will keep us posted and we will pass the info along to you.

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Sunday, February 19th marked the latest installment of the "Girls of the Lehigh Valley" benefits. This time the show was held at the Stonewall in Allentown, PA. A generous crowd packed in around the dance floor to see some of the area's "Performing Ladies" strut their stuff.

The show was emceed by Brian Marks and included the talents of Nancy Montiel (Ms. Stonewall, 1993, Miss Pennsylvania, USA, 1993), Hanna (Ms. Stonewall, 1994), Leah (Ms. Stonewall, 1995), and Jody Lynn (1st Alternate, Ms. Stonewall, 1995).

Between the \$2 cover/donation and the tips received by the performers, over \$500 was raised to benefit the AIDS Services Center located at 60 W. Broad Street, Suite 205, Bethlehem, PA. For more information about this organization, write to the address above or call: (610) 974-8701.



Pictured above: From left, Nancy, Jody Lynn, Hanna, & Leah

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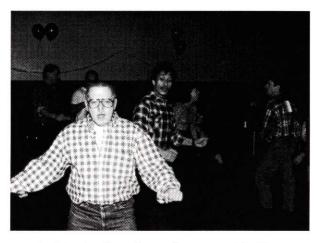
"NIGHT MOVES" SWINGS!

F.A.C.T (Fighting Aids Continuously Together) held their annual "Winter Games" Sunday night, February 19th at the Allentown Italian Club, 823 N. Jordan Street, Allentown, PA. In keeping with the evenings activities, the theme for this year's event was appropriately dubbed "Night Moves."

A group of around 175 people attended the activity to dance, eat, compete, and socialize. On the lower level "Oldies 99" DJ, Malcolm McClay spun hits from the fifties for general dancing as well as for competitions in the "Twist", "Jitterbug", and "Limbo." Meanwhile, people on the upper level kicked up their heels to Country/Western music made possible by Donald Borger of City Line Sound and WXKW DJ, Sue Schallor and husband. Participants on that level were able to learn Country Line Dancing from Ed Robinson, who has eagerly volunteered his time to this event for the past four years. Competitions in Country-Western included the "Two Step", "Tush Push", and "Waltz."

Everyone's taste buds were tantalized by a





wonderful selection of appetizers provided by Lauren Fegely of Simply Smooth Catering and Desserts donated by Pierre Wiegand of The Bakery at Chester Springs. A beautiful handmade quilt was awarded to the winner of the raffle, tickets of which were sold before, and throughout, the evening by some of the many volunteers.

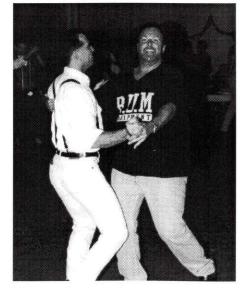
This, F.A.C.T.'s first major fund-raising event of the year, turned out to be a fun and successful occasion, raising a net of around \$3000, by early estimates. The event kicked off the year in which F.A.C.T. will observe it's tenth anniversary. With the dedication of caring individuals such as those who helped make the Winter Games a success, we can all look forward to the hope that this worthwhile organization doesn't still have to be fighting the same disease in another ten years!

Steve Black

Attorney

Vice Chair League of Gay & Lesbian Voters

1322 Center Street Bethlehem, PA 18018 610-865-7890 333 S. Camac Street Philadelphia, PA 19107 215-735-0852





Make a Splash at PRIDE's first annual Pool Party!

It's the dead of Winter, what could be more dreary? Keep up you spirits, Spring is right around the corner. Why not celebrate with a "hot" POOL PARTY? PRIDE of the Lehigh Valley is sponsoring just such an event on Sunday, March 12th, from 2 to 7pm at the Sheraton Jetport, Airport Road, Allentown.

Your donation of \$15 will include an all you can eat buffet of Summertime treats such as hot dogs, hamburgers, macaroni and potato salads, cheese plate, vegetarian fare and much more. A cash bar will be available, plus lots of other fun activities!

Proceeds will benefit the 2nd Annual Lehigh Valley PRIDE Festival coming up on Sunday, June 11, 1995 at Cedar Beach Park in Allentown. This year's Festival is going to be great. Doug Stevens and the Out Band, Lynn Lavner, Keith Christopher, and Destiny are already booked for entertainment. All this and much more can only be made possible by your support.

So, come on out and make a splash at the PRIDE POOL PARTY! Tickets are available at: Drop Me A Line - Hamilton Mall, Allentown; American Hairlines - 77 w. Broad Street, Bethlehem.; Creations Designs in Hair - 22 n. 3rd Street, Easton; or call the PRIDE InfoLine at (610)770-6200. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

PRIDE of the Lehigh Valley: Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals Together! is a non-profit, 501C3 organization.

If you would like to be listed in the Coming Events section call AboveGround at: (610) 821-1321

Coming Events

-Fund-raisers-

Thursday, March 2nd - 10pm

Ms. Diamonz Cabaret

to benefit F.A.C.T.

for info call: (610)865-1028

Saturday, March 4th

AIDS Benefit Concert & Workshop

Wesley United Methodist Church, Bethlehem Workshop - 3pm

Concert - 7pm

to benefit AIDS Services Center for info call: (610)865-5715 or 821-0578

Sunday, March 19th

BINGO at Diamonz to benefit L.V.G.L.T.F.

Sunday, March 26th

BINGO at Stonewall

to benefit FACT's Family Support Services

— Club Events-

Candida (610)434-3071

*Old Fashioned St. Patty's Day Party Friday, March 17 2pm - 2am

Diamonz (610)865-1028

*Women II Women Party - Sat. March 11

*St. Patrick's Day Bash - Fri. March 17

*BKB Party - Sun. March 19

*Sitcom Night - Sat. March 25

*"Wheel of Torture" - Thurs, March 2 & 23

Stonewall / Moose Lounge (610)432-0215

*Visual Encounters Promo - March 3, 4, & 5

*All Age Night - Every Monday 10pm-2am

*Country Western Night - Tuesdays 8pm-12am

*St. Patrick's Day Party - Fri. March 17

*Oscar Party - Mon. March 27

-Misc. Events-

PRIDE Pool Party at the Jetport Sunday, March 12th - 2pm-7pm for info call: (610)770-6200

Lesbian & Gay Films

Monday, March 20th - 7pm Whitaker Lab Auditorium - Lehigh U.

*A Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts

*She Must Be Seeing Things





This month we visited with Alessandra MacGrew (pictured at left), a local artist who specializes in painting oil portraits, and is equally talented in making various types of jewelry and crafts.

As is the case with so many other local artisans, "Alex" has

chosen to live a bit away from the bustle of city life. We came to see her at her farmhouse in Wassergas, Pa., just outside of Hellertown. After living in places such as Washington, D.C., San Francisco, New Jersey and New York, she settled in the Lehigh Valley in 1976. Alex has lived at her current home for the past 4 years, and, together with her significant other, is currently trying to

return it to being a working farm. Her love of animals becomes more than apparent when one observes her many cats, peafowl, and fancy poultry. She also owns two Tennessee Walking Horses which have won various ribbons in area shows.

Alessandra received her Bachelor of arts degree at American University in Washington, D.C., and has participated in many graduate studies at various Universities, most of which were located in California.

Although Alex enjoys portrait work the most, she also crafts a wide variety of items, some of which are pictured within this article. In painting portraits, she has done some from sittings with subjects, but does the majority from photographs taken from various poses. This is simply for convenience sake, as a portrait can take up to six moths to complete, and would therefore be very inconvenient to most subjects. Alex was also quick to point out that she is able to do any type of

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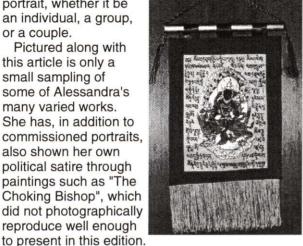
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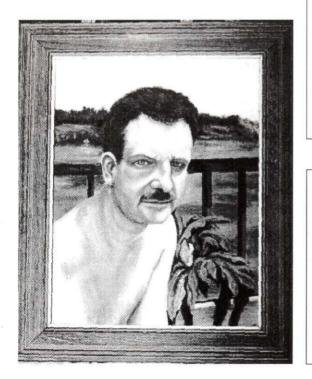
portrait, whether it be an individual, a group, or a couple.

Pictured along with this article is only a small sampling of some of Alessandra's many varied works. She has, in addition to commissioned portraits, also shown her own political satire through paintings such as "The Choking Bishop", which did not photographically reproduce well enough



Alex is available to do commissioned portraits and for those interested, she also provides lessons in painting. If you would like more information about Alex's portraits. tutoring, or many varied crafts, please write to her at the following address or call her at: (610) 838-7239.

Alessandra K. MacGrew 3952 Lower Saucon Rd. Hellertown, PA 18055



If you would like to be featured in our Art Section, write to: **AboveGround**

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Lehigh Valley Gay and Lesbian Task Force President Dr. Manuel Gonzalez and Discrimination Committee Co-Chair Renae Bennett deserve praise for their letters to the editors that managed to address the issue of homophobia and the inflammatory nature of the articles without appearing to defend Austin, his actions, or pornography. Ms. Bennett pondered, "why the very large, bold headline didn't read 'Barney video, child care books, and home video confiscated at Austin home'." Dr. Gonzalez's letter was particularly touching and effective by mentioning specific examples of the hard working, loving gay and lesbian parents that live in the Lehigh Valley. He wrote, "Gay and lesbian parents are just as successful as straight parents in raising happy, healthy, well-adjusted children. We in the gay community see this every day: a college professor raising three children; a building contractor bringing up his three kids; a sales professional adopting the daughter of a "straight" woman who neglected her child to pursue her drug addiction; and, a former minister whose two sons are now married."

The gay and lesbian community cannot retreat into the closet simply because of what Austin did or how the newspapers covered this story. We must do just the opposite. We must come out and be visible. Gay and lesbian parents have to publicly show that they are just as loving, just as committed, just as patient, and just as "fit" as any set of straight parents. We must present a true and accurate image of gays and lesbians to

counteract the lies and stereotypes that were perpetuated by the Austin articles. We must continue to send letters of protest to the papers and challenge them to print the true, everyday stories of gay men and lesbians raising children.

Our community must show the press how it treated the Austin case differently, because of Austin's gayness, than other similar cases. Over a year ago, a young girl was killed in east Allentown while delivering her newspapers The killer was eventually arrested and charged with that and other similar murders, which involved rape. I don't ever remember any mention of that killer's sexual orientation or whether the police searched his house for heterosexual pornography. Another example is the Susan Smith case in South Carolina, where she drowned her two young sons. No newspaper insinuated that because Ms. Smith was divorced that all divorced mothers are unfit parents.

Don't let the Austin case make you want to retreat into the closet. Let the press coverage serve as an impetus for you to take action. Educate your neighbors about gay and lesbian parents. Explain to your co-workers how tabloid journalism about "his homosexuality" clouds the real issue of child abuse in our society. The press coverage should incite the Lehigh Valley's Gay and Lesbian Community to continue its coming out process. There is work to be done and people to educate. Come out and help.

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McHale Signs Non-Discrimination Pledge

Lehigh Valley Congressperson Paul McHale has added his name to a statement affirming that sexual orientation is not a consideration in hiring, firing or promoting employees within his congressional office. The statement was circulated by the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the largest national gay and lesbian lobbying organization. McHale added his name after meeting with HRCF lobbyist Nancy Buermeyer.

Steve Black, Vice Chair of the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters believes "McHale's action is a result of the significant number of letters generated through the FAN computer letters program, where volunteers from the LGLV and the Task Force staffed computers at Diamonz and

Stonewall asking patrons to write letters to our representatives. McHale now knows that the gay and lesbian community in the Lehigh Valley exists and is politically aware."

HRCF has asked Lehigh Valley residents to send a letter to McHale thanking him for signing the non discrimination statement. Letters should be addressed to The Honorable Paul McHale, 26 East Third Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015. If you wish to call, McHale's office phone number is (610) 866-0916.



by Jacqueline Marish, M.A.

Most of us have experienced anxiety and know it by its symptoms of racing heart, sweaty palms, and shaky, tense, or frightened feeling. Most people think that anxiety is anxiety and that everyone's anxiety is similar to one's own experience. The reality is that there are two different kinds. The first type, called situational anxiety, is experienced as a direct reaction to a specific event. The person experiencing the anxiety is able to readily identify the stressful event that triggered their symptoms. The second type of anxiety is considered a disease. The suddenness of the symptoms, the lack of an immediate or readily perceived stressful event, the eruption of symptoms without warning all distinguish this type from the normal anxiety which results from a real threat to one's safety

This second type is called endogenous anxiety. Endogenous is derived from Greek and refers to being born with or produced from within. People experiencing endogenous anxiety appear to be born with a genetic predisposition to develop it. Usually other family members have suffered from anxiety also.

Endogenous anxiety has a life force of its own. The person with this type feels the reaction is coming from within their body, not a response to external events. Thus the evidence indicates that the biology of the body has malfunctioned in some way.

Éxogenous anxiety (reaction to known external threat) can happen at any age. Endogenous anxiety is different. The majority of people with

this type start in the late teens and early twenties. It rarely starts before age 15 or after age 35. This is another reason that it is considered to have a biologic

basis.

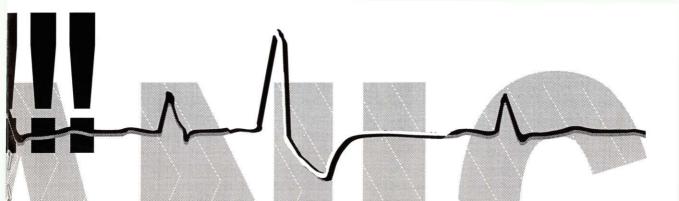
Symptoms to be aware of are:

briefly lost control of itself.

1. lightheadedness, dizzy spells 2. imbalance and jelly legs 3. difficulty breathing 4. palpitations 5. chest pain or pressure 6. choking sensation 7. tingling sensations or numbness 8. nausea 9. headaches 10. feeling detached from parts of your body. These and other symptoms come under what is termed spells. Spells are just as the word implies, short periods of symptoms that occur without warning and for no apparent reason. People will feel as though a part of their body has

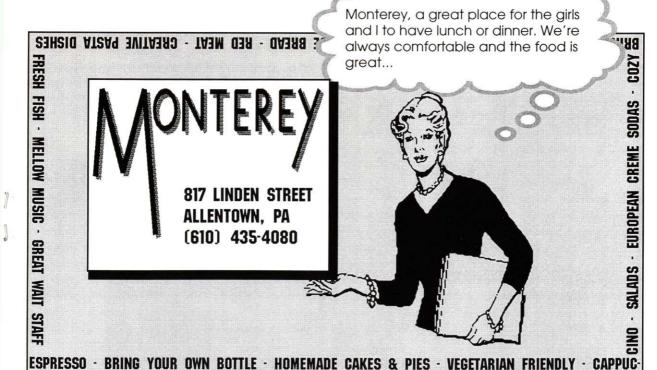
Stage two of the anxiety disease process is panic. People feel as though all the symptoms of spells combine in an overpowering episode of being fully out of control. Panic attacks can lead to hypochondriasis in which a person obsesses about their health and how their body works. If panic attacks persist, a person can develop phobias, an anticipatory anxiety attack, avoiding something out of the fear that an anxiety attack will ensue. All of this can lead the person to depression, moodiness, and sleep disturbance.

Although there are psychological underpinnings as well as environmental stressors to anxiety, science is searching intensively for a physical basis to endogenous anxiety. Evidence certainly suggests such a basis and research continues. Because of these three factors being interdependent in anxiety disease, treatment needs to address this interplay. Treatment is effective with medication, behavior therapy and psychotherapy. If you are someone who experiences endogenous anxiety, or know someone who does, please know that it's not

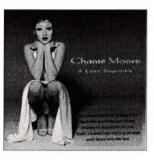


necessary to continue living in fear. Professional help should be encouraged. There are many qualified people to turn to.

Jacqueline Marish, M.A., was quick to respond to our request for the preceding article. Recently, a close personal experience with anxiety and panic attacks, and the subsequent lack of an area hospital to diagnose it, led us to believe the community could benefit by being made more aware of this condition. Jacqueline, who has a practice in Bethlehem, PA., was more than happy to offer her help in making the occurrences of anxiety attacks more understandable and hopefully less frightening to those who may experience them. Watch in future issues for more articles from Jacqueline relating to various topics that influence the way we act, and interact, throughout our daily lives. - editor









Artist: Chante' Moore

Album: A LOVE SUPREME

Reviewer: C.Robert Frank Rating: 4 stars

I've actually had this gem of an album for quite some time. Well, it's time to let the cat out of the bag. A Love Supreme is a must have for any lover of Adult Urban Contemporary music. Each track is lushly orchestrated and enveloped by Chante' 's emotionally rich vocals. Her rendition of the classics "I Want To Thank You" and "Free / Sail On" are divinely inspired. These covers never overshadow her original cuts. The soulful R&B cuts "Searchin" and "Old School Lovin" are pure sex while "Am I Losing You" produces salt in the most jaded eyes.

Artist: The Wolfgang Press

Album: FUNKY LITTLE DEMONS

Reviewer: C.Robert Frank

Rating: 3 stars

Here we go again. Another album in the "white man can't rap" genre. Wolfgang Press is kind of a "what if the Crash Test Dummies had any sense of pitch?" groups. The music is very hook oriented and could actually get you humming (or droning) along. The lyrics are a bit High School-ish, but there is something catchy. Album: ALL THAT AND A BAG OF WORDS

Rating: 1 star

Don't get excited by the title, this is not a drag queen read record. It is simply a man's dull, "let's blame the media for all our problems", poetry read over. Even less inspired acid jazz. I'm not saving the concept wouldn't work, for nothing is more musically dramatic than Martin Luther King Jr.'s teaching set to music in Moodswing's "Spiritual High." Unfortunately D-Knowledge is not Martin Luther King Jr., he is not William S. Burroughs, he is not Arrested Development. He is simply...Not Good!

Artist: Sade

Album: THE BEST OF ... Re viewer: C.Robert Frank

Rating: 5 stars

At this point, just about everyone should have this in their collection. If not, this is simply a reminder that you need it. what I like is simply that some of "The Best" are actually lesser known album cuts. We hear "The Sweetest Taboo" enough on the radio, but isn't it great to remember "Is It A Crime" and "Jezebel"?!





If you are a DJ or VJ and would like to have your reviews or Top Ten listed in AboveGround call: (610) 821-1321 or send them to: AboveGround

Allentown, PA 18105-1656 P.O. Box 1656

Video Hot Picks

VJ: Mitzi D - STONEWALL

- 1. Dreamer LIVIN JOY
- 2. Release Me INDUSTRY
- 3. Can't Getta Man Can't Getta Job SISTER BLISS
- 4. Melody Of Love DONNA SUMMER
- 5. Everlasting Love(remix)
 GLORIA ESTEFAN
- 6. When Will I Get... SPARKS
- 7. I Feel Love MESSIAH
- 8. Big Dick Man(x-version) SEX CLUB
- 9. Don't Bring Me Down SPIRITS
- 10.Excited (MK mix) M PEOPLE

Live Performance

DIAMONZ

Saturday, March 11 - 8pm
Women II Women
Damzels - Kate & CJ - Bonnie Boland
Val Beahm - Louie - Merle Exit - Pat Hartzel
Pat Flamish - Rhyme & Reason - HDC Dancers

Saturday, March 24 - 8pm Damzels

STONEWALL

Wednesdays, March 8 & 22 The Zany Tinsel Garland

Wednesday, March 15 Jonathan Bowen

> Friday March 17 Carol Regan

Friday, March 24 Elaine Paxson with Christian Daizey

DIS TOP TEN

DJ: Jim Chenault Bar: DIAMONZ

- 1. Move It TECHNOTRONIC
- 2. Do It TONY DIBART
- 3. Big Beat CAPELLA
- 4. Jambalaya
 MIAMI SOUND MACHINE
- 5. Situation TOM JONES
- 6. Everlasting Love GLORIA ESTEFAN
- 7. Keep Giving Me Your Love CE CE PENISTON
- 8. I Do PETRICE RUSSIAN
- 9. Don't Bring Me Down SPIRITS
- 10.Release Me INDUSTRY

DJ: C. Robert Frank Bar: STONEWALL

- 1. Body To Body SHADES OF LOVE
- 2. Drop A House URBAN DISCHARGE
- 3. Never Get Enough WATERLILLIES
- 4. I Need Somebody LOVELAND
- 5. Heartbeat JIMMY SOMERVILLE
- 6. Y? KIWI DREAMS
- 7. Your Lovin' Arms
 BILLIE RAY MARTIN
- 8. Hold Me So Tight STEPZ
- 9. Love Is What We Need DREAM TEAM
- 10. Bedtime Story MADONNA



18 Theatre & Performing Arts

Zanadula

Allentown College Theatre

GUYS & DOLLS

Opening - April 19th for box office info call: (610) 282-3192

Civic Little Theatre

LIPS TOGETHER TEETH APART

Opening - April 28th for box office info call: (610) 432-8943

Moravian College Theatre

CABARET

Opening - April 21st for box office info call: (610) 862-1489

Muhlenberg Theatre Association

A CHORUS LINE

Opening - March 31st for box office info call: (610) 821-3333

PA STAGE

THE EFFECTS OF GAMMA RAYS

MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS

Continuing thru - March 12th for box office info call: (610) 433-3394

Pennsylvania Playhouse

EVITA

Opening - March 10th for box office info call: (610) 865-6665

Touchstone Theatre

MACBETH

Opening - March 21st for box office info call: (610) 867-1689

AboveGround is looking for an individual with background knowledge of theater to write reviews of local productions on a monthly basis. Interested persons should call (610)821-1321.

GAMMA RAYS STRIKE ALLENTOWN

PA STAGE continues to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Paul Zindel's Pulitzer Prize winning drama, THE EFFECTS OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS.

One of Off-Broadway's greatest successes, starring Sada Thompson, this powerful and moving study of an embittered, vindictive widow and her two young daughters has been hailed as one of the most significant and affecting plays of our time. A few months after the play opened it moved to the New Theatre on Broadway where it remained until May 14, 1972, after 819 performances. THE EFFECTS OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS also won an Obie Award and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award as Best American Play of the season (1970), and was heralded by critics as the "best play of its genre since THE GLASS MENAGERIE." Walter Kerr of the New York Times wrote. "The play itself is one of the lucky blooms; it survives and is beautiful. With it, Mr. Zindel becomes one of our most promising writers."

While supporting herself and her two daughters; by taking in a decrepit old border, Beatrice Hunsdorfer wreaks a petty vengeance on everyone in her life. She is as much a tortured victim of her own nature as she is a victim of the cruel lot that is hers. Her eldest daughter Ruth, is pretty but subject to convulsions. She earns cigarettes from her mother by scratching her back. Matilda, the youngest, is painfully shy but excels in



We're looking for volunteers to help organize the 1995 PRIDE Festival!!!

Join us on Sunday, March 5th, 4:00pm at Grace Covenant Fellowship - 247 N. 10th St. or for more information call (610) 770-6200

school. Encouraged by her science teacher, Matilda undertakes a gamma ray experiment which wins a prize - and also brings on the shattering climax of the play. Too filled with her own hurts to accept her daughters success, Beatrice can only maim when she needs to love and deride when she wants to praise. Yet as Tillie's experiment proves, something beautiful and full of promise can emerge from even the most barren, afflicted soil.

THE EFFECTS OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS is directed by Pam Pepper, who also directed such memorable PA STAGE productions as: LOST IN YONKERS. BUS STOP. PAINTING CHURCHES. TRUE WEST, MASS APPEAL, and A CHRISTMAS CAROL. The artistic team for the play includes Sarah Baptist - Set Designer, Joseph Arnold -Lighting Designer, and Audrey Stables - Costume Designer.

THE EFFECTS OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS opened on February 18th and will continue through Sunday, March 12th. For box office information call: (610) 433-3394.

Theatre Outlet presents its "Counter **Culture Monday" Series**

"The Cafe" episodes of Counter Culture Mondays at the Theatre Outlet in downtown Allentown will feature four shows for the month of March. They are listed as follows:

March 4th - "Penguin Blues"

March 13th - "Along The Enchanted Way"

March 20th - "A Reading of Dillon Thomas under Milkwood"

March 27th - "After The Fire"

For more information call the Theatre Outlet at: (610) 820-9270.

Karaoke

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Candida

Every Thursday 10pm - 2am

DIAMONZ

Every Tuesday 9pm - 2am Every Sunday 7pm - 2am

Stonewall / Moose Lounge Every Sunday 10pm - 2am

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Horrorscoops by Evil Esther



AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb.18

April showers bring May flowers, but this is March and you don't smell anything like a rose! Yes, you could very well get caught in someone else's petunia patch. Better keep a low profile if you want to have a home, come spring!



GEMINI May 21-June 20

So your so sick with the flu you just can't get out of bed, huh? This may be a question you will find difficult to answer when you run into your boss while socializing at night. Best bet would be to consider not playing hooky this month!



LIBRA Sept.23-Oct.22

Why in the world did you start going out with that fool anyway. Does this sound familiar? If it does, you are probably about to learn a lesson about short-lived, never should have happened affairs. This is nothing new to you!



PISCES Feb.19-March 20

You're not really going to wear those old clothes are you? Looks like there's a good chance your already poor sense of fashion is about to take a slide deeper. Take others' advice. They are right on the money this month!



CANCER June 21-July 22

Well, you can only blame yourself for eating all those sweets over the winter! You may find yourself with a case of the blues as you look into that full length mirror after leaving the shower. Looks like time for a new swimsuit!



SCORPIO Oct.23-Nov.21

Can't get a date whatever you seem to try? Don't fret, this month it just isn't in the stars. You know, there are plenty of good books you haven't read yet. Go to the library. You know, that book place! Maybe you will find that date after all!



ARIES March 21-April 19

You've got a hunch about some bad goings on that may very well turn out to be true. There is a strong chance for a reunion with one you may have thought no longer within your reach. Go ahead and grab the brass ring!



LEO July 23-Aug.22

Oh please! When are you going to stop using that same old lie when dodging friends who want you to go out? It may come to pass this month that a close friend is going to simply give up trying to beg for your attention. Answer the call.



SAGITTARIUS Nov.22-Dec.21

If you are prone to drink more than your share, you may choose to take it easy this month. There is a very strong chance that a drunken episode could land you in jail or even the hospital. Save yourself that last brain cell!



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This month may show you to be more than pushy when it comes to your views on politics and life. Although you may think your intricate observations are quite well thought out, others will see them as simple dribble.



VIRGO Aug.23-Sept.22

This could be you're lucky month at the casinos or with the lottery. Don't make any big plans for the windfall however, as you might have an old debt knocking on your door. There's a good chance that you will end up owing and not owning!



CAPRICORN Dec.22-Jan.19

Hate to say it, but it looks like you may actually have a good month ahead of you. Good possibilities for romance happy times with family and friends. Don't get too comfortable, it will all turn to mud next month. Bummer!

*Horrorscoops are published for entertainment purposes only. Anyone running their life based on them is obviously in need of good therapy!! Life is short. Have a little Fun!!

Three Lehigh Valley Area State Senators to Sponsor Hate Crimes Bills

The Hate Crimes Bills will be introduced into the Pennsylvania State Senate by prime sponsor Sen. David Heckler (R - Bucks County) later this month. Senators Roy Afflerbach (D - Lehigh and Northampton Counties) and David Brightbill (R - Lebanon, Berks and Lehigh Counties) have signed onto the bills as co-sponsors. Other co-sponsor so far include Sen. William Stewart (D - Cambria County), Sen. Michael Dawida (D - Allegheny County) and Sen. Roxanne Jones (D - Philadelphia). The League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV) expects several other Senators to sign onto the bills before they are formally introduced later this month.

Sen. Heckler has been a strong supporter of the Hate Crimes Bill in the past. He served as a cosponsor while he was a member of the State House and also co-sponsored the bill last year. "Sen. Heckler approached LGLV about becoming the prime sponsor of the bill in this session," stated Chris Young, Chair of LGLV. "It is gratifying to have a long time Republican supporter as the prime sponsor of this bill. Sen. Heckler has been there behind the Hate Crimes bill since the beginning. It shows that there are Republicans who believe in the big tent."

The Hate Crimes Bills, if passed, will increase penalties for crimes, such as assault and murder, which are motivated by the victim's sexual orientation and require the state police to collect and report statistics of such crimes. In 1994, the Hate Crimes Bill failed to be voted out of committee, despite intensive lobbying by the LGLV, when two Senators, Mike Fisher (R - Allegheny County) and James Shumaker (R - Harrisburg), convinced the Judiciary Committee Chair to pull the bill from the agenda.

The League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV) generated nearly 5,000 postcards in 1994 to State Senators encouraging them to support the bill. Over 300 of those cards were sent to Sen. Afflerbach. Senator Afflerbach's district includes: in Lehigh County: Allentown, West Bethlehem, Catasauqua, Coopersburg, Coplay, Fountain Hill, Slatington, Whitehall, Hanover, Salisbury, Upper Saucon, and in Northampton County: Bath, North

Catasauqua, Northampton, Walnutport, and the Townships of Lehigh, Allen, East Allen, Hanover and Lower Nazareth.

"The Gay and Lesbian Community in the Lehigh Valley did a tremendous job in signing postcards. Only 2 senators from Pittsburgh received more postcards," stated Steve Black, LGLV Vice Chair. Black also believes that "Afflerbach co-sponsoring the bill is a direct result of the incredible number of

postcards sent to him by his constituents."

Sen. Brightbill's district includes the Lehigh County Townships of Heidelberg, Lynn, Lowhill, Weisenberg, Washington, North Whitehall, Upper Macungie and South Whitehall and several townships in Berks County and all of Lebanon County. "Brightbill was lobbied hard by LGLV last year, but never indicated whether he would be supportive. He was probably worried about his election." observed Steve Black, "His cosponsorship, this year, came as a surprise to me."

Sen. Uliana's Position Still Unknown

Recently elected State Senator Joe Uliana still has not stated a position on the Hate Crimes Bills. "I am attempting to set up a meeting with Sen. Uliana. We must continue to send him cards and letters urging him to support the Hate Crimes Bills. We must remember that he was not in the Senate last year and he has no idea how many cards former Sen. Reibman received" stated Steve Black. Uliana's district includes: in Northampton County: Bethlehem, Easton, Bangor, Freemansburg, Glendon, Hellertown, Nazareth, Pen Argyl, Portland, Roseto, Stockertown, Tatamy, West Easton, Wilson, Wind Gap, and the

Townships of Lower Saucon, Williams, Bethlehem, Palmer, Forks, Upper Nazareth, Moore, Bushkill, Plainfield, Washington, Lower Mt. Bethel, Upper Mt. Bethel and in Monroe County: Polk, Eldred, Ross, Hamilton and Smithfield Townships and Stroudsburg, East Stroudsburg and Delaware Water Gap.





What Can We Do?

- 1. If you live in Sen. David Heckler's, Sen. Roy Afflerbach's, or Sen. David Brightbill's district send them a note thanking them for sponsoring the Hate Crimes Bill.
- 2. If you live in Sen. Joe Uliana's district write him a letter asking him to support the Hate Crimes Bill, which would amend the Ethnic Intimidation Act to include sexual orientation and require the state police to collect and report statistics of such crimes.
- All Senators can be sent mail at the following address:

The Honorable ______ Pennsylvania State Senate Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120-0030

4. If you prefer to call your senator, use the following phone numbers:

Sen. Afflerbach (610) 434-3300 Sen. Heckler (215) 348-0600

Sen. Brightbill (800) 222-1897 Sen. Uliana (610) 865-7725

5. If you have any questions or if you would like to become involved with the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters call Bob Jacobs at (610) 437-2294 or Steve Black at (610) 865-7890. The Lehigh Valley Chapter of the League of Gay and

Lesbian Voters meets on the 4th Monday of each month at the home of Bob Jacobs, 1121 Turner Street, Allentown.

CLINICAL MEMBER: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY A.A.S.E.C.T. CERTIFIED SEX THERAPIST

Marjorie R. Rosen, M.Ed.
INDIVIDUAL, COUPLE & SEX THERAPY

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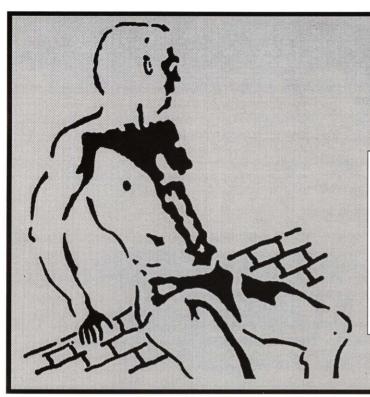
10 Reasons Why Pennsylvania Needs to Pass the Hate Crimes Bill

submitted by the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters

- **1.** Anti lesbian and gay violence is on the rise throughout the Commonwealth, and it is becoming more violent.
- **2.** A report for the US Department of Justice noted that "Homosexuals are probably the most frequent victims" of hate violence.
- 3. In recent reports, Pennsylvania Attorney General Ernie Preate notes that hate crimes against lesbian and gay people are a problem in the Commonwealth.
- **4.** Hate Crimes are more serious than those that don't involve prejudice because they are intended to intimidate an entire group, and the fear they generate victimizes an entire class of people.
- **5.** Juries and Judges often give more lenient sentences for gay-bashing than in normal assault and murder cases.
- **6.** The Commonwealth needs to send a message to potential offenders that hate crimes will be punished by more than just a slap on the wrist and that no group of people "deserves" to be assaulted or murdered.
- 7. Pennsylvania recognized the need for hate crime legislation when it passed the Ethnic Intimidation Act, covering race, color, religion, and national origin. The Hate Crimes Bill adds sexual orientation to this list.
- **8.** The US Government, in the Hate Crimes Statistics Act passed by the US Congress and signed by President Bush, recognizes that hate crimes committed against lesbians and gay men are a legitimate problem.
 - **9.** The US Congress overwhelmingly passed a bill similar to Pennsylvania's Ethnic Intimidation Act, but in it included sexual orientation. However, the vast majority of violent crimes are state, rather than federal violations, and thus not cover by the new law.
 - **10**. Failing to pass the Hate Crimes Bill conveys a sense that the Commonwealth either condones anti gay and lesbian violence, or doesn't believe it exists.

Please include these facts in your letter to your state representatives and senators.

HOURS BY APPOINTMENT (610) 437-4840



B.K.B.

PRODUCTIONS

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44. Having actual substance 47. ___ end, rear 48. Curved line

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50. Monster

51. Very Small

53. Oboe part

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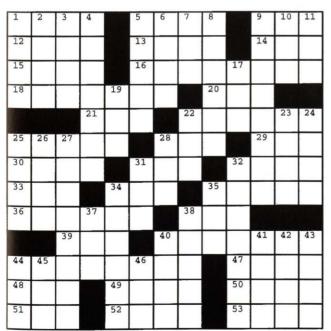
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1. Medicinal plant



ACROSS

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anxiety 18. Gentle winds

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30. Dry and barren 31. ____ out, dress Richard _ 32. Land measure 10. Befor

34. Baton

35. Conjecture 36. Main course

38. Food fish

39. Intention 40. Selections

33. A call for help

11. Sen. Kennedy 17. Observe

19. Menagerie 22. Greedy chap

8. evening party

9. English poet,

23. Blunders

24. Perishes 25. Flower holder CROSS

26. Common metal

27. Remoteness 28. Seed-holder

31. Part of a boot

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35. Sticky stuff: slang

37. Equip 38. Bonny Fischer's

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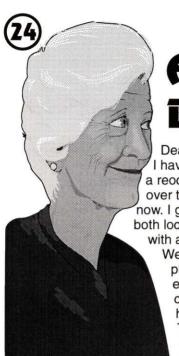
42. Ireland

43. Eskimo vehicle 44. Shooter marble

45. Exist

46. Hive-dweller

solution...page 27



Ask THUR BESS

Dear Bess. I have been dealing with a reoccurring situation over the past four years now. I go out often to bars, both locally and in Philly, with a good friend of mine. We have a purely platonic friendship, but enjoy each other's company and always have a great time. The only problem comes about when it is time to purchase

drinks. He is more than willing to buy his share of drinks, but never leaves a tip when he does. I mentioned this to him once and he said "I never tip bartenders. They are paid to wait on me, and probably don't even notice when it's this busy." I've never pushed the issue as I don't want to ieopardize our friendship. As a result however, I end up buying more than my share of rounds, or sneak down tips in order to avoid my own embarrassment. Is there anything you can suggest that might make this situation easier to handle? R.B. - Allentown

Dear R.B.,

Sometimes when a new person comes of age and starts going to bars, it is possible they are not familiar with the appropriate need in tipping bartenders. Your friend, however, seems to realize that bartenders receive tips but possibly doesn't understand why. People in the service industry such as food servers, cocktail servers and bartenders rely on tips as a major part of their salary. Tips are usually assumed as part of their

Bars/Clubs

Candida 247 N. 12th St. Allentown, PA 18102 610-434-3071

Diamonz 1913 W. Broad St. Bethlehem, pA 18018 610-865-1028

Stonewall / Moose Lounge 28-31 N. 10th St. Allentown, PA 18101 610-432-0215

anchediona

AIDS Related Groups

AIDS Outreach 112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 18102 610-435-8424

AIDS Services Center 60 W. Broad St. Suite 205 Bethlehem, PA 18108 610-974-8701

F.A.C.T. P.O. Box 1028 Allentown, PA 18105 610-820-5519

If your organization would like to be listed in this section, write to us at AboveGround or call (610) 821-1321.

Universal Life Church, Inc. Rev. Joel S. Diehl, DD, MsD. 610-433-5325

Rev. Robert J. Forté 610-791-0716 *please leave message.

MCC of the Lehigh Valley -worship at St. John's UCC 6th & Walnut Sts. Allentown, PA 18102 (610)439-8755

Religious Groups

Grace Covenant Fellowship 247 N. 10th St. Allentown, PA 18102 610-740-0247

Integrity 610-395-1785 610-758-8642

Misc. Organizations

PRIDE of the Lehigh Valley P.O. Box 20804 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610-770-6200

Lehigh Valley Gay & Lesbian Task Force PO Box 20253 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

(610)250-0266

Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus P.O. Box 20712 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610-740-0247 610-821-0578

P-FLAG c/o Barbara Fasick 2040 Lehigh St. #710 Easton, PA 18042 610-258-4794

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters Lehigh Valley Chapter P.O. Box 20781 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0781 (610) 437-2294

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earnings, and consequently their hourly pay is lower than the established minimum wage. Bartenders usually make the minimum wage or slightly more but also tend to have more to deal with than other service workers. The stress involved with turning down drinks to intoxicated individuals alone would hardly be worth five dollars an hour. Add to this having to deal with persons who can often be rude, pushy or even violent and the picture becomes even more unappealing. Regardless of how careful a bartender is, he or she always has to worry about the possibility of being fined, or even sued, for serving an under age individual or a person that "one too many ". Tips is said to stand for "To Insure Prompt Service". You can hardly fault a bartender who waits on tipping individuals before those who never leave a gratuity. They are simply trying to make the maximum amount of money possible while carrying out their duties. Bartenders also need to be very aware of what is going on regardless of how busy the atmosphere. Your friend can be assured that if he frequents

particular bars, his ungraciousness is well known. As to what you can do to alleviate your own stress, I can only suggest that you sit down with your friend and mention some of the things I have relayed to you. If this doesn't work, you might suggest that you each purchase your drinks individually. This could help alleviate your embarrassment while still affording you your friendship. Good Luck!

Send your letters to Aunt Bess c/o **@boveGround** PO Box 1656 Allentown, PA 18105-1656

The Memories Will Always Remain

Dennis J. Fritz, 41, of Allentown passed away on Friday, February 10th.

For many years he had been the Manager of the Mandarin House South Restaurant in Allentown. For those of us old enough to remember, however, he had also served as a bartender at the Stonewall, during the "good old days" of disco, in the seventies. As we think back to the days of that era, now long since gone, the memories will always remain of Dennis and the part he played in making them special.

ABOVE V GROUND

Your Source for News & Views in and around the Lehigh Valley

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Classifieds / Personals

RATES

1-4 lines \$ 5.00 5-10 lines \$10.00 11-15 lines \$15.00

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Allentown, PA 18105-1656

CLASSIFIEDS 27

Puzzle Solution

1 H	0	3 P	A S		5 S	6 I	7 N	8 S		9 L	10 E	11 T
12 E	D	I	т		13 T	R	I	0		0	R	E
15 R	0	L	E		16 R	E	L	I	17 E	v	E	D
18 B	R	Е	E	19 Z	Е	s		20 R	Y	E		
			21 R	0	W		22 P	Е	Е	L	23 E	24 D
25 V	26 I	27 D	Е	0		28 P	ı	Е		29 A	R	I
30 A	R	I	D		31 T	0	G		32 A	С	R	E
33 S	0	s		34 R	0	D		35 G	υ	E	s	S
36 E	N	т	37 R	E	Е		38 C	0	D			
		39 A	I	м		40 C	н	О	I	41 C	42 E	43 S
44 T	45 A	N	G	I	46 B	L	E		47 T	А	I	L
48 A	R	С	H	49 S	E	A	S		50 O	G	R	Е
51 W	Е	Е		52 S	Е	W	S		53 R	E	Е	D

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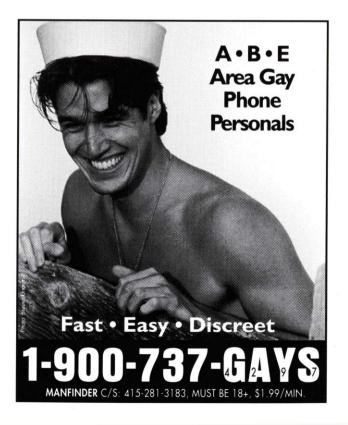
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